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# Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-01 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 /039 W
---------- 127452
P 251830Z OCT 74
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8425

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5960

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJECT: STRENGTHENING OF LINKS BETWEEN NAA AND NATO

SUMMARY: THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY (NAA) CONTINUES TO WORK TOWARD THE GOAL OF STRENGTHENING ITS LINKS WITH THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL. SYG LUNS HAS TAKEN THE INITIATIVE TO SCHEDULE COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF WAYS IN WHICH SUCH TIES MIGHT BE IMPROVED. MISSION COMMENTS ARE BELOW. REQUEST GUIDANCE IN TIME FOR OCTOBER 30 NAC.
END SUMMARY.

1. ENCOURAGED BY THE THOUGHTS EXPRESSED IN PARA 13 OF THE OTTAWA DECLARATION AND BY RECENT FAVORABLE REMARKS BY A NUMBER OF PERMREPS, THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY (NAA) WITH THE COOPERATION OF THIS MISSION HAS BEEN QUIETLY EXAMINING STEPS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN THE NAA AND THE COUNCIL. SOME OF THESE EFFORTS HAVE PRODUCED UNEXPECTED RESULTS IN THE FORM OF A PO FROM SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS, TEXT OF WHICH IS QUOTED BELOW, IN WHICH THE SYG CALLS FOR OCTOBER 30 COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF HOW LINKS MIGHT BE IMPROVED.

2. LUNS WILL ADRESSS THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY ANNUAL SESSION IN LONDON ON NOVEMBER 14.

3. MISSION STRONGLY FAVORS THE GOAL OF STRENGTHENED LINKS BETWEEN THESE TWO ORGANIZATIONS AND HAS BEEN COOPERATING WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL
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NAA IN WORKING TO THAT END. A NUMBER OF EUROPEAN ALLIES, PARTICU-LARLY FRANCE, WHILE MORE OR LESS IN FAVOR OF CLOSER TIES WITH PARLIMENTARIANS, OPPOSE SINGLING OUT THE NAA AS THE INTERPARLIA-MENTARY ASSOCIATION WHICH DESERVES SPECIAL ATTENTION FROM THE COUNCIL.

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4. NAA SECRETARY GENERAL DESHORMES AND KEY MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF ARE AWARE OF PRACTICAL LIMITATIONS TO ANY POTENTIAL RELATIONSHIP BEETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS. NEITHER THE NAA SECRETARIAT NOR INDIVIDUAL NAA MEMBERS ARE PUSHING FOR INSTITUTIONALIZATION OR OTHER FORMAL RECOGNITION OF THE NAA BY THE COUNCIL. SUCH INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP WOULD BE NEITHER PRACTICAL NOR DESIRABLE FROM EITHER POINT OF VIEW.

5. MISSION HAS MADE A NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS TO THE NAA WHICH COULD BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF IDEA MENTIONED IN LUNS' PO FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COUNCIL: A) THE COUNCIL COULD COMMISSION THE SPC OR POLADS TO STUDY WAYS IN WHICH THE GOALS OF PARA 13 OF THE OTTAWA DECLARATION MIGHT BE IMPLEMENTED; B) PARLIMENTARY ORGANIZATIONS GENERALLY OR THE NAA SPECIFICALLY COULD BE MENTIONED IN THE DECEMBER NAC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE; C) A MEETING OF THE NAA STEERING COMMITTEE COULD BE SCHEDULED IN BRUSSELS AT THE SAME TIME AS THE DECEMBER NAC MINISTERIAL AND; D) LUNS OR THE U.S. MIGHT ENCOURAGE ALLIES TO INCLUDE PARLIAMENTARIANS IN THEIR DELEGATIONS TO MINISTERIALS.

6. IN DESHORMES' OPINION, THE PROCESS OF STRENGTHEING LINKS SHOULD BE GRADUAL. HE PREFERS THAT POSSIBLY MORE CONTROVERSIAL PROPOSALS NOT BE RAISED IN THE COUNCIL AT THIS TIME. RATHER, HE HOPES THE COUNCIL WILL FIRST DIGEST THE RESULTS OF THIS INITIATIVE BY LUNS. THEN HE HOPES THE NAA DEBATE IN LONDON ON THE SUBJECT OF CLOSER LINKS WILL MOVE THINGS SLIGHTLY FURTHER. IN THE SPRING WHEN THE NAC CONSIDERS THE NAA RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS WHICH COME OUT OF THE LONDON SESSION, EVEN MORE PROGRESS MIGHT BE MADE. MISSION AGREES THIS GRADUAL TIMETABLE IS WISE.

7. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT IN THE DEBATE ON THIS SUBJECT AT THE OCTOBER 30 NAC THE U.S. SHOULD REPEAT SHOULD SPEAK IN FAVOR OF THE PRINCIPLE OF CLOSER NATO TIES WITH NAA AND ALL ALLIED PARLIAMENTARINS.



8. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS IN TIME FOR OCTOBER 29 PERMREPS LUNCH, IF POSSIBLE. IF NOT, THEN IN TIME FOR OCTOBER 30 NAC.

BEGIN TEXT OF PO/74/143:

STRENGTHENING OF THE LINKS BETWEEN THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY AND NATO

IN PARAGRAPH 13 OF THE OTTAWA DECLARATION, THE MEMBERS OF NATO RECOGNIZED THAT THE COHESION OF THE ALLIANCE HAD FOUND EXPRESSION IN THE FREE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AMONG THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR PEOPLES AND ACCORDINGLY DECLARED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF LINKS AMONG PARLIAMENTARIANS.

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2. THE PARLIAMENTARIANS, WHO ARE KEPT DULY INFORMED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS, HAVE A FUNDAMENTAL ROLE TO PLAY IN BRINGING HOME TO THE PUBLIC THE ALLIANCE'S GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS AND IN ASSISTING GOVERNMENTS WITH POLICY-MAKING, PARTICULARLY IN THE DEFENCE SPHERE, DUE ATTENTION BEING PAID TO PUBLIC REACTIONS.

3. WHERE THE ALLIANCE'S AFFAIRS ARE CONCERNED, IT IS USEFUL FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS TO BE IN A POSITION TO ASSESS THE STATE OF PUBLIC OPINION THROUGHOUT MEMBER COUNTRIES.

4. THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY IS PARTICULARLY SUITED FOR THIS PURPOSE, BEING THE SOLE BODY OF PARLIAMENTARIANS CONCERNED EXCLUSIVELY WITH ALLIANCE PROBLEMS AND COMPRISING PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC.

5. PARAGRAPH 13 OF THE OTTAWA DECLARATION WAS THEREFORE GREETED WITH SATISFACTION AND INTEREST BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY. IN VIEW OF THIS INTEREST, I SHALL BE OBLIGED, IN MY ADDRESS TO THE PARLIAMENTARIANS AT THEIR ANNUAL SESSION IN LONDON NEXT MONTH, TO EXPRESS MY VIEWS ON THE PRACTICAL ACTION THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THE OTTAWA DECLARATION IS, IN FACT, CARRIED INTO EFFECT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN NATO AND THE ASSEMBLY. HOWEVER, I DO NOT WANT TO DO THIS UNTIL WE HAVE HELD CONSULTATIONS IN THE COUNCIL, AND I ACCORDINGLY INVITE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS THE CONFIDENTIAL
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MATTER.

6. I PROPOSE TOBEGIN BY DRAWING THE ASSEMBLY'S ATTENTION TO WHAT I ALREADY DO - NOR IS THIS INCONSIDERABLE. I HAVE ALWAYS ENDEAVOURED TO ENCOURAGE THE ASSEMBLY'S ACTIVITIES, TO MAINTAIN CONTINUING CONTACT WITH ITS SECRETARY GENERAL AND TO RECEIVE THE PARLIAMENTARIANS AS FREQUENTLY AS POSSIBLE. I REGULARLY ATTEND PLENARY SESSIONS, AT WHICH I MAKE A SPEECH AND ANSWER ANY ORAL QUESTIONS. EACH YEAR, I SEND THE ASSEMBLY DETAILED COMMENTS - WHICH, MOREOVER, ARE SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL - ON THE RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS IT FORWARDS TO ME AFTER ITS PLENARY SESSION. WITH EFFECT FROM THIS YEAR, I HAVE DECIDED TO ANSWER ANY WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY WHICH ARE FORWARDED TO ME BY ITS SECRETARIAT. NATO MAKES AN APPRECIABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASSEMBLY'S BUDGET. IN ITS PUBLICATIONS, THE NATO INFORMATION SERVICE TAKES CARE TO EMPHASIZE THE EXTREMELY USEFUL ROLE PLAYED BY THE ASSEMBLY IN STRENGTHENING THE TIES BETWEEN PARLIMENTARIANS OF THE ALLIED COUNTRIES.

7. MY ATTENTION HAS ALSO BEEN DRAWN TO A NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY, SOME OF WHICH WARRANT CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. I PROPOSE TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THOSE THAT
ARE LIKELY TO RESULT IN MORE FRUITFUL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN NATO AND THE ASSEMBLY BUT TO OPPOSE ANY PROPOSALS THAT WOULD

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INSTITUTIONALIZE SUCH CO-OPERATION. THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS
ARE IN THE FIRST OF THESE TWO CATEGORIES: THE HOLDING OF
INFORMAL MEETINGS BETWEEN CERTAIN PROMINET ASSEMBLY FIGURES AND
ANY PERMANET REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO ATTEND,
THE ATTENDANCE OF A LARGER NUMBER OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES
AT SESSIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY AND CLOSER CONTACTS BETWEEN NATIONAL
DELEGATIONS AND MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY. IT HAS ALSO BEEN SUGGESTED
THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER ACTING AS PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC
COUNCIL SHOULD BE ASKED TO ADDRESS THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE
ASSEMBLY. I, FOR MY PART,HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO THIS IDEA,
PROVIDED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS IS NOT FOLLOWED BY QUESTIONS
OR A DISCUSSION. HOWEVER, I PROPOSE TO MAKE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT,
IN MY VIEW, CERTAIN OTHER PROPOSALS ARE UNACC PARTICULAR TO THE SUGGES-
TION THAT THERE SHOULD BE
JOINT MEETINGS, EITHER OF THE COUNCIL IN MINISTERIAL SESSION AND
A DELEGATION OF THE ASSEMBLY, OR OF CERTAIN NATO COMMITTEES -
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E.G. THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OR THE MILITARY COMMITTEE - AND
COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY.

8. IN POINT OF FACT, MOST OF THE ABOVE PROPOSALS CONCERN
THE ASSEMBLY'S RELATIONS WITH THE COUNCIL MUCH MORE THAN WITH THE
INTERNATIONAL STAFF. I HAVE ACCORDINGLY DEEMED IT ADVISABLE TO
CIRCULATE THIS PAPER, WHICH WILL BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE
COUNCIL MEETING ON 30TH OCTOBER.

END TEXT.
MCAULIFFE

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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 11 JUN 1999
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** n/a
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Draft Date:** 25 OCT 1974
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1974ATO05960
**Document Source:** ADS
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS
**Errors:** n/a
**Film Number:** n/a
**From:** NATO
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Image Path:**
**ISecure:** 1
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741091/abbryyce.tel
**Line Count:** 194
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE
**Office:** n/a
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Page Count:** 4
**Previous Channel Indicators:**
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** n/a
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Authority:** golinofr
**Review Comment:** n/a
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 08 APR 2002
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
**Review Markings:**

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Referrals:** n/a
**Review Release Date:** n/a
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** STRENGTHENING OF LINKS BETWEEN NAA AND NATO
**TAGS:** PFOR, NATO
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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